

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CARACA 06892 252139Z
ACTION OES-09

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 INT-05 DOE-15 SOE-02 EB-08
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FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3155

C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 6892

PASS USGS ALFRED CHIDESTER

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: TECH ENRG VE
SUBJECT: VIST OF USGS CHIDESTER AND NOBLE: GOV REQUEST
FOR ASSISTANCE IN EVALUATING URANIUM GEOLOGY

REF: CARACAS 6398

1. CHIDESTER AND NOBLE SPENT FOUR DAYS (JULY 18 TO 22)
IN CARACAS DISCUSSING WITH GEOLOGISTS IN THE MINISTRY
OF ENERGY AND MINES AND CONAN POSSIBLE URANIUM BEARING
GEOLOGICAL SITES. VENEZUELAN GEOLOGISTS HAVE
IDENTIFIED SEVERAL POTENTIAL SITES IN THE ANDES RANGE,
IN THE CENTRAL MOUNTAIN RANGE, IN EL BAUL
(STATE OF COJEDES), IN THE GUAYANA SHIELD AREA SOUTH
OF THE ORINOCO IN BOLIVAR STATE, AND IN THE NORTHERN
PART OF THE TERRITORY OF AMAZONAS.

2. BECUSE OF THE CURRENT WEATHER CONDITIONS, SITE VISITS
WERE IMPOSSIBLE, BUT THE DISCUSSIONS WITH THE VENEZUELAN
GEOLOGISTS WERE CONSIDERED BY CHIDESTER AND NOBLE TO
BE A SATISFACTORY SUBSTITUTION. THE NEXT STEP PLANNED
IS A MEETING OF KEY VENEZUELAN TECHNICAL PERSONNEL WITH
US GEOLOGICAL SRUVEY PERSONNEL IN WASHINGTON AND
GOLDEN, COLORADO IN SEPTEMBER. AT THAT TIME A PROGRAM
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WILL BE ESTABLISHED FOR GOV TECHNICIANS PROVIDING
ANALYTICAL FACILITIES, TRAINING AND FIELD WORK IN THE
UNIQUE ASPECTS OF URANIUM GEOLOGY. AS A FRUTHER STEP,
AFTER THE WASHINGTON VISIT AND WHEN THE WEATHER HAS
IMPROVED, US TECHNICAL PERSONNEL WILL VISIT THE SITES
AS NECESSARY TO ASSIST THE VENEZUELANS IN THEIR EXPLORATION
PROGRAM.

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